

Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

April 11, 2012

Present:

**Linda Noble Domenic Ricci Maria Marcello Paul DiDomenico
Bob Turner William DiBiasio Mike Babbitt Carl Brunetti
Claudette Lussier Hagop Jawharjian Richard Foster**

Absent:

There were no members absent.

Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:33 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Carl Brunetti made a motion, seconded by William DiBiasio, to change the order of the meeting so that the approval of the minutes of April 10th occurs later in the meeting.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence

The Finance Director John Ward was present to discuss correspondence to the Budget Board.

There had been correspondence regarding Insurance and Surety and a request to increase the proposed funds by \$25,000.

There was also correspondence regarding a decrease in the proposed expense for the Revaluation.

The Sewer Fund was then discussed.

Revenues are calculated based on billing, not on projected receipts, and expenses are projected by amounts paid and not encumbered.

The Sewer Fund operates similarly to the Water Commission in that they do not service all taxpayers, but only those who are hooked up to the system.

There was a negative balance for a bond because it had been refinanced and there had been a general bond that was separated from the sewer bond. The bond will be expiring this year.

The removal of that amount was then shown as a disclosure in the budget.

There are items such as pumps and other capital equipment that do not show on the budget sheet because of the way it is set up.

The Water Commission is supposed to report on items approved by the Financial Town Meeting that pertain to the water system.

The Budget Board and Finance Director discussed putting together an anticipated expenditure and anticipated collection report to be included in the budget for information purposes for the Financial Town Meeting.

The Finance Director will provide that information before the budget is submitted for the Financial Town Meeting.

In valuations, the Finance Director noted that motor vehicles were not increased in the proposal, the others are within about a 50,000 range of the previous numbers, and that the collection rate is proposed at 97% but collections have historically been 98% so the number could be proposed at 97.5%

Therefore, he noted that things like the big difference in valuation coming for Amica are not as much of a concern.

Also, permit fees have been coming in higher than anticipated.

The Finance Director adjourned from the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of April 10th were distributed for review.

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to approve the minutes.

The minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.

Public Comment

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

Discussion/Final Vote

Resolutions

Technology Media Center

There was additional correspondence received from the School Superintendent regarding the Technology Media Center and the opinion from RIDE regarding the appropriation of the funds and

completion of the project in relation to the possibility of state grants. It was still not clear whether the approval of the funds, or the completion of the actual project, would cause the state to not approve a possible grant for the project which would be for wireless only. It was also still not clear yet whether the state would actually approve the issuance of such grants for technology

The Budget Board discussed the amount for which they would fund the resolution based upon the possibility of the grant.

One possibility would be funding it at \$2.2 million with \$579,000 given back to the surplus if the grant is received.

Another possibility would be funding it at \$1.6 million and if the grant is not received there could be a Special Financial Town Meeting for a supplemental appropriation because otherwise the Town could be denied a grant for lack of need if the project is fully funded.

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to approve a resolution to spend up to \$2.2 million of Town funds on the Technology Media Center Project.

The motion passed by unanimous vote to include a resolution for up to \$2.2 million of Town funds for the Technology Media Center.

Resolution I

The Budget Board reviewed previous years' wording of Resolution I. The Budget Board discussed whether the resolution provided that any surplus could be carried over to the next year's budget, including for the school budget.

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, to

approve Resolution I as amended.

The resolution passed by unanimous vote.

Senior Center Bocce Court Canopy Resolution

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Bob Turner, that a resolution be approved.

The Budget Board discussed the amount of funding at up to \$60,000 and the wording of the resolution.

The motion passed by unanimous vote to include a resolution for up to \$60,000 for the Senior Center Bocce Court Canopy.

Budget Inclusions

Information was received by the Finance Director regarding projected revenues.

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded by Carl Brunetti to reopen Fixed Charges in order to increase Insurance and Surety by \$25,000 making the new total \$4,246,934.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The total Municipal Operating Budget after all adjustments made by the Budget Board was \$18,083,381.

The total Education Operating Budget after all adjustments made by the Budget Board was \$48,517,078.

Noting corrections in prior budgets:

The 2009-2010 audited education budget was \$47,493,968.

The 2010-2012 audited education budget was \$46,756,703.

The total education resolutions as proposed by the Budget Board added up to \$2,619,150.

The total municipal resolutions as proposed by the Budget Board added up to \$2,209,000.

Total Capital Project resolutions added up to \$4,828,150.

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Bob Turner, that the total combined proposed education and municipal budgets be proposed at \$75,347,879. This represents an increase of 6.27% over the previous budget.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

In revenues:

Capital Fund 50 is being proposed at \$2,129,150

Capital Fund 12 is being proposed at \$524,000

Open Space Fund 11 is being proposed at \$500,000

School Operating Surplus is being proposed at \$1,500,000

RI Open Space Recreational Grant is being proposed at \$175,000.

Impact Fees are being proposed at \$39,000.

Including these proposals, Total Municipal Revenues would be \$76,847,879.

After discussion an error was discovered that would make revenues \$75,347,879.

Hagop Jawharjian made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, that

Total Combined Revenues be proposed at \$75,347,879,

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Hagop Jawharjian made a motion, seconded by William DiBiasio, that

Total Combined Expenses be proposed at \$75,347,879.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Resolution IV

The Budget Board discussed the ranges that the tax levy should fall within in the resolution.

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, that the tax levy range be \$49,000,000 to \$55,584,407.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Domenic Ricci, to approve the resolution.

The resolution passed by unanimous vote.

Public Comment

There was no public comment or questions at the time.

Adjourn

William DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Hagop Jawharjian, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 pm.